



West Virginia
Agricultural
Statistics Service

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APRIL RED MEAT PRODUCTION

WEST VIRGINIA— Commercial red meat production during April 2003 totaled 500,000 thousand pounds. This was 12 percent below March 2003, but 6 percent above April 2002 production. Commercial red meat production is the carcass weight after slaughter including beef, veal, pork, and lamb and mutton. Individual commodity production is total live weight of commercial slaughter.

Commercial cattle slaughter totaled 627,000 thousand pounds, up 8 percent from April 2002. Cattle slaughter totaled 600 head, the same as the previous year. The average live weight at 976 pounds was up 27 pounds from a year ago.

Commercial hog slaughter totaled 164,000 pounds, up 13 percent from last year. Hog slaughter totaled 600 head, the same as the previous year. The average live weight at 282 pounds was up 37 pounds from the previous year.

Commercial Sheep and Lamb slaughter was not published to avoid disclosing individual operations.

UNITED STATES – Commercial red meat production for the United States totaled 3.85 billion pounds in April, down 1 percent from the 3.90 billion pounds produced in April 2002.

April 2002 contained 22 weekdays and 4 Saturdays.

April 2003 contained 22 weekdays and 4 Saturdays.

Beef production, at 2.15 billion pounds, was 2 percent below the previous year. Cattle slaughter totaled 2.97 million head, up 1 percent from April 2002. The average live weight was 1,209 pounds, down 18 pounds from April a year ago.

Veal production totaled 16.0 million pounds, 1 percent below April a year ago. Calf slaughter totaled 79,300 head, down 3 percent from April 2002. The average live weight was 336 pounds, up 9 pounds from April a year ago.

Pork production totaled 1.66 billion pounds, down 1 percent from the previous year. Hog kill totaled 8.33 million head, 1 percent below April 2002. The average live weight was 268 pounds, up 1 pound from April a year ago.

Lamb and mutton production, at 19.4 million pounds, was up 2 percent from April 2002. Sheep slaughter totaled 295,600 head, 6 percent above last year. The average live weight was 132 pounds, down 5 pounds from April a year ago.

January to April red meat production was 15.12 billion pounds, virtually unchanged from 2002. Accumulated beef production was down 2 percent from last year, veal was up 6 percent, pork was up 1 percent, and lamb and mutton was down 11 percent.

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